Reply to Office Action of December 19, 2008

Examiner: Gary K. Graham

Docket: VAL 206 P2 - WDE 0545

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) Wiper A wiper system for a windscreen of a vehicle, in particular of a motor vehicle, comprising two simultaneously driven windscreen wipers and comprising a drive rod between a motor and a first wiper bearing of a wiper shaft, characterized in that wherein the motor and the drive rod are arranged and designed in such a way that at least a driver-side crank can be provided for driving said wiper shaft, which driver-side crank in each position during its movement is oriented in a direction towards the a vehicle center and generally between said first wiper bearing and a second wiper bearing, said first wiper bearing being associated with a first wiper and said second wiper bearing being associated with a second wiper.

2. (Cancelled)

- 3. (Currently Amended) WiperThe wiper system according to Claim claim 1, characterized in thatwherein the motor is arranged in front of and at a distance from said wiper bearing in the a direction of travel (Y) of the vehicle.
- 4. (Currently Amended) WiperThe wiper system according to Claim 2, characterized in that claim 1, wherein the motor is connected to a driver-side wiper bearing via the drive rod.
- 5. (Currently Amended) WiperThe wiper system according to claim 1, characterized in that at least claim 4, wherein said driver-side wiper bearing is arranged close to an A-column of the vehicle.

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6. (Currently Amended) WiperThe wiper system according to claim 1, characterized in that

said wherein wiper bearings are arranged in such a way that an essentially parallel alignment of

the at least one windscreen wiper with respect to the a respective vehicle column of the vehicle

is achieved in an upper wiper end position.

7. (Currently Amended) WiperThe wiper system according to Claim claim 1, characterized

in that wherein a passenger-side wiper shaft is driven via a transmission rod which is indirectly

connected to the motor by a driver-side crank.

8 - 10. (Cancelled)

11. (Currently Amended) WiperThe wiper system according to claim 1, characterized in

thatwherein it is a wiper system which operates in opposite directions.

12. (Currently Amended) Drive unit for a wiper system of a vehicle, in particular for a wiper

system according to claim 1, characterized in that The wiper system according to claim 1,

wherein said drive rod and said motor are arranged and designed in such a way that said at

least a driver-side crank can be provided for driving a wiper shaft, which crank in each position

is oriented in a direction towards the vehicle center.

13. (Currently Amended) Drive unit according to Claim 12, characterized in that The wiper

system according to claim 12, wherein the motor is arranged in front of and at a distance from

the <u>a</u> wiper bearing in the direction of travel (Y) of the vehicle.

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14. (Currently Amended) A wiper system for use on a vehicle having a windscreen and an associated A-column, said wiper system comprising:

a motor for driving a first windshield wiper coupled to a first bearing and a second

windshield wiper coupled to a second bearing;

a drive rod for coupling said motor to said first and second bearings; and

at least one crank for coupling at least one of said first bearing or said second bearing to

said drive rod;

said drive rod, said motor and said at least one crank being situated generally between

said first and second bearings at all times during wiping and permitting at least one of said first

or second windshield wipers to become situated generally parallel to said associated A-column

during wiping and generally between said first bearing and a second bearing, said first bearing

being associated with a first wiper and said second bearing being associated with a second

<u>wiper</u>.

15. (Currently Amended) The wiper system as recited in claim 14, wherein said at least one

crank is oriented towards a center of the vehicle and between said first and second bearings.

16. (Currently Amended) The wiper system as recited in claim 14, wherein said motor is

situated in a vehicle direction location of said first and second windshield wipers.

17. (Currently Amended) The wiper system as recited in claim 14, wherein said first

windshield wiper is associated with a driver's side of said vehicle, said at least one crank being

situated toward a center of said vehicle and generally between said first and second bearings

when said first windshield wiper is generally parallel to said an A-frame of said vehicle.

18. (Currently Amended) The wiper system as recited in claim 14, wherein said motor is

situated between said a drive arm and a front of said vehicle.

19 - 21. (Cancelled)

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22. (Currently Amended) A windshield wiper system for driving a first windshield wiper blade and a second windshield wiper blade in a vehicle comprising a driver's side frame and a passenger side frame, said windshield wiper system comprising:

a first bearing coupled to said first windshield wiper blade;

a second bearing coupled to said second windshield wiper blade;

drive linkage coupling said first and second bearings to a motor in order to permit at least one of said first or second <u>windshield</u> wiper blades to become generally parallel to said driver's side frame or said passenger side frame, respectively, <u>and generally between said first bearing and a second bearing</u>, said first bearing being associated with a first wiper and said second bearing being associated with a second wiper.

23. (Cancelled)

- 24. (Currently Amended) The windshield wiper system as recited in claim 22, wherein said drive linkage comprises at least one crank oriented towards a center of the vehicle and between said first and second bearings.
- 25. (Currently Amended) The windshield wiper system as recited in claim 22, wherein said motor is situated between said drive linkage and a front of said vehicle in vehicle direction location.
- 26. (Currently Amended) The windshield wiper system as recited in claim 22, wherein said first windshield wiper <u>blade</u> is associated with said driver's side <u>frame</u> of said vehicle, said drive linkage comprising at least one crank situated toward a center of said vehicle and generally between said first and second bearings when said first windshield wiper <u>blade</u> is generally parallel to said driver's side frame of said vehicle.

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27. (Cancelled)

28. (Currently Amended) The windshield wiper system as recited in claim 14, wherein said a drive linkage comprises a drive arm coupled to said motor, said motor being situated between said drive arm and a front of said vehicle.